

1. A method of treating a patient afflicted with a neoplastic cancer, the method comprising oral administration of a pharmaceutical composition to the patient, the pharmaceutical composition consisting essentially of

- (a) a taxane;
- (b) a solvent capable of dissolving the taxane;
- (c) polyoxyethylated castor oil;
- (d) a diluent; and
- (e) optionally, a flavoring;

wherein the taxane has a solubility in ethanol at room temperature of at least 200 mg/ml.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the composition contains a flavoring.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the solvent capable of dissolving the taxane is ethanol.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the diluent is water, saline, dextrose or an electrolyte solution.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein the solvent capable of dissolving the taxane is ethanol and the diluent is saline.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein the ethanol and polyoxyethylated castor oil are present in a volumetric ratio of about 1 to 1.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein the taxane has an  $ID_{50}$  value determined relative to the HCT116 cell line that is at least 4 times less than that of paclitaxel.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein the taxane has an  $ID_{50}$  value determined relative to the HCT116 cell line that is at least 7 times less than that of paclitaxel.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein the taxane has an  $ID_{50}$  value determined relative to the HCT116 cell line that is at least 10 times less than that of paclitaxel.

10. The method of claim 1 wherein the taxane has a solubility in ethanol at room temperature of at least 500 mg/ml.

11. The method of claim 1 wherein the taxane has a solubility in ethanol at room temperature of at least 800 mg/ml.

12. The method of claim 10 wherein the taxane has an  $ID_{50}$  value determined relative to the HCT116 cell line that is at least 4 times less than that of paclitaxel.

13. The method of claim 10 wherein the taxane has an  $ID_{50}$  value determined relative to the HCT116 cell line that is at least 7 times less than that of paclitaxel.

14. The method of claim 10 wherein the taxane has an  $ID_{50}$  value determined relative to the HCT116 cell line that is at least 10 times less than that of paclitaxel.

15. The method of claim 11 wherein the taxane has an  $ID_{50}$  value determined relative to the HCT116 cell line that is at least 4 times less than that of paclitaxel.

16. The method of claim 11 wherein the taxane has an  $ID_{50}$  value determined relative to the HCT116 cell line that is at least 7 times less than that of paclitaxel.

17. The method of claim 11 wherein the taxane has an  $ID_{50}$  value determined relative to the HCT116 cell line that is at least 10 times less than that of paclitaxel.